

JONATHAN BRADLEY

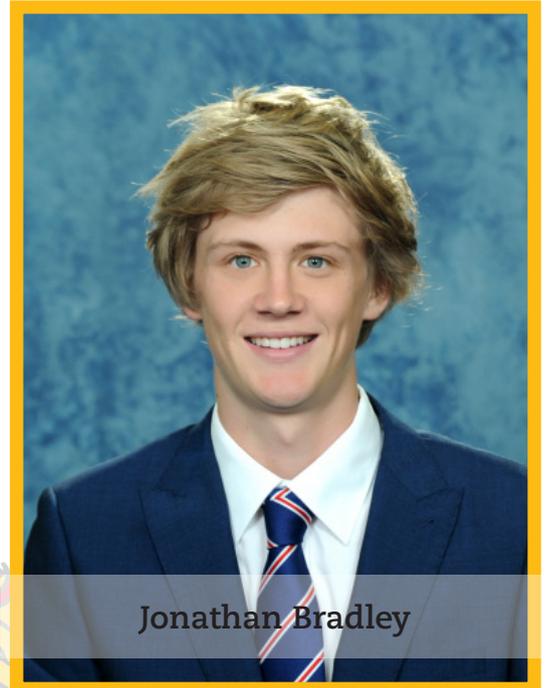
BST Alumnus 2014

Intrigued by biological sciences and considering Medicine as a career, Jonathan Bradley arrived, full of ambition, to study Biomedical Science at Keele University. However, in his time at university, he came to realise that he did not want to make a life time's career out of the sciences - and he started to consider other options and subjects.

Jonathan explains, 'It was a point in my life where I had to think, do I want to do something that's going to make me happy, or do I want to do something that's going to please those around me?

My transition to law was mainly because you will find many things that will intersect with it, and that there are many aspects to it which means that any interest you have, could relate you to your career, which is something that is very rare to find these days. Law incorporates every single aspect of our lives'

Having been poised towards a medical career while at BST, Jonathan took his 3 A Levels: Biology, Chemistry and Physics and took Mathematics as his AS Level (Advanced Subsidiary) 'Next to no writing nor essays (I thought I hated essays) but now it turns out I write quite a bit, and I enjoy it...things do change. I would recommend taking at least one 'writing subject' such as English, History or Psychology - something that gets you acquainted with writing long form work', explains Jonathan, as you never know where your career might lead and sharp writing skills and always extremely useful' as they are to Jonathan now in his legal work.



According to Jonathan, one of the most useful experiences of university education was that it was a growing experience, not just through academic learning but as a person, the relationships you make and people you meet. Trying new things was crucial to helping him make the switch into law - 'It was the lesson to not be afraid, it was the idea that trying and failing but coming out with experience at the end can be a great outcome'.

His advice to current A Level students is to "try new things, get out there, join the bake club, join the creative writing society, join new sports teams, just try it out because life is so short and we don't know what we are capable of. If it's not something you like, or something you're really good at, then move onto something else. I made the mistake of getting my grades right but not getting involved enough - not getting enough experiences, so later on, it was difficult for me to find a job, it took me over a year to find the right role because I didn't get involved in extracurriculars or different job opportunities or work experience during my conversion course. I turned my back on all of the experience I could've been having on the side which could have helped my applications. Certainly, it's tough to balance all the things you have to do: but now I see how I could have been better prepared'.

With supporting family and friends, Jonathan showed resilience, intelligence and determination to which all BST students aspire. It didn't take long until he received a graduate diploma in Law. Jonathan is now a paralegal practicing in the UK and getting fantastic experience in litigation. He has plans to qualify as a solicitor in the next few years: watch this space!

*Article written by BST Year 10 student,
Shakira Zheng (November 2021)*

